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PATENT APPLICATION

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. ___10003533-

IN THE

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

entor(s): Lance W. Russell

Serial No.: 09/888,544

Examiner: Klinger, Scott M

Filing Date: June 25, 2001

Group Art Unit: 2153

Title:

₽. O. Box 7599

Routing Meta Data for Network File Access

Transmitted herewith is/are the following in the above-identified application:

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS PO Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

TRANSMITTAL LETTER FOR RESPONSE/AMENDMENT

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Other:		CLA	IMS A	SAME	NDED B	у от	HER THAN A	SMAL	ENTI		(fee \$_		
(1) FOR	(2) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT			(3) JMBER EXTRA	MBER HIGHEST NUMBER		(5) PRESENT EXTRA		(6) RATE		(7) ADDITIONAL FEES		
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INDEP. CLAIMS			М	INUS				=	0	×	\$88	\$	0
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Charge \$____ to Deposit Account 50-1078. At any time during the pendency of this application, please charge any fees required or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 50-1078 pursuant to 37 CFR 1.25. Additionally please charge any fees to Deposit Account 50-1078 under 37 CFR 1.16, 1.17, 1.19, 1.20 and 1.21. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date of Deposit: Jan. 5, 2005

Typed Name: Edouard-Garcia

Signature:

Respectfully submitted,

Lance W. Russell

Edouard Garcia

Attorney/Agent for Applicant(s)

Reg. No. **38,461**

Date: Jan. 5, 2005

Attorney's Docket No.: 10003533-1

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Lance W. Russell

Art Unit: 2153

Serial No.: 09/888,544

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: Routing Meta Data for Network File Access

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

In response to the Examiner's action dated December 10, 2004, Applicant provisionally elects with traverse the claims of Group I (claims 1-6, 12-14, 19, and 20). However, as explained in detail below, the restriction requirement is submitted to be improper (I) because the Examiner has failed to establish a *prima facie* case for restricting the claims, and (II) because it would not be a serious burden for the Examiner to examine the entire application on the merits without the Restriction Requirement.

I. THE EXAMINER HAS FAILED TO ESTABLISH A PRIMA FACIE CASE FOR RESTRICTING THE CLAIMS

Original claims 1-20 are pending.

The Examiner is requiring restriction of the claims to one of the following claim sets: Group I (claims 1-6, 12-14, 19, and 20); and Group II (claims 7-11 and 15-18).

In support of this restriction requirement, the Examiner has asserted that:

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

Inventions I and II are related as subcombinations disclosed as usable together in a single combination. The subcombinations are distinct from each other if they are shown to be separately

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:

	January 5, 2005
	Date
/	(Signature of person mailing papers)
	Edouard Garcia
	(Typed or printed name of person mailing papers)